

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A server computer operable to process requests sent by a plurality of client processes executing on a plurality of client computers, the server computer comprising:~~

a first memory storing program instructions; and

a first processor coupled to the first memory;

wherein the first processor is operable to execute the program instructions stored in the first memory to implement a first manager service;

wherein the first manager service is operable to:

receive ~~[[the]]~~ requests sent by ~~[[the]]~~ a plurality of processes executing on ~~[[the]]~~ a plurality of client computers, wherein each request includes a request to acquire read access and/or write access to a data object from a plurality of data objects;

coordinate read access rights and write access rights for the plurality of data objects in response to the requests;

store state information indicative of access rights acquired by each of the processes to the plurality of data objects; and

communicate with a first backup manager service on a second server computer in order to maintain a first mirror of the state information on the second server computer.

~~wherein the manager service is operable to respond to the requests by coordinating access rights for the plurality of data objects such that, at any given time, one of the following conditions is met for each data object:~~

~~a) One or more client processes currently have read access rights to the data object and no client processes currently have write access rights to the data object; or~~

~~b) One client process currently has write access rights to the data object and no other client process currently has read or write access rights to the data object.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[system]]~~ server computer of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein, in the event that the first manager service becomes inaccessible, the first backup manager service on the second server computer is operable to become ~~[[the]]~~ a manager service for receiving client requests to acquire access to data objects from the plurality of data objects.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[system]]~~ server computer of claim 1, wherein the data objects comprise one or more of:

HTTP session data;

IIOP session data; and

a component having callable methods.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[system]]~~ server computer of claim 1, wherein the first manager service is operable to grant to a first client process access rights for a first data object in a first mode;

wherein said granting the access rights in the first mode comprises granting the access rights such that the first client process is not required to communicate with the first manager service to release the access rights.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[system]]~~ server computer of claim 5, wherein the first manager service is operable to communicate with the first client process to reclaim the access rights in response to a request from a second client process to acquire access rights for the first data object.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[system]]~~ server computer of claim 1, wherein the plurality of data objects are stored on one of the client computers.

8. (Currently Amended) A distributed system operable to coordinate access to shared data, the system comprising:

a plurality of client computers;

wherein the client computers execute client processes operable to send requests to a first manager service on a first server computer to acquire read access rights and/or write access rights for accessing data objects stored on a first computer;

wherein the first manager service is operable to: ~~respond to the requests sent by the client processes to coordinate access rights for the data objects such that, at any given time, one of the following conditions is met for each data object:~~

coordinate read access rights and write access rights for the data objects in response to the requests;

store state information indicative of access rights acquired by each of the client processes to the data objects; and

communicate with a first backup manager service on a second server computer in order to maintain a first mirror of the state information on the second server computer.

~~a) One or more client processes currently have read access rights to the data object and no client processes currently have write access rights to the data object; or~~

~~b) One client process currently has write access rights to the data object and no other client process currently has read or write access rights to the data object.~~

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ distributed system of claim ~~[[10]]~~ 8, wherein the first computer is the first server computer.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ distributed system of claim 8, wherein the first computer is one of the client computers.

13-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A system for executing a web application, the system comprising:

~~a client computer operable to transmit HTTP requests;~~

~~a web server computer coupled to the client computer; and~~

a plurality of application server computers coupled to the web server computer, wherein a first application server computer implements a first manager service, wherein a second application server computer implements a first backup manager service;

wherein the web server computer is operable to receive HTTP requests from [[the]] client computers [[computer]] and distribute the requests among the application server computers;

wherein each application server computer is operable to respond to a request received from the web server computer by[[:]] communicating with [[a]] the first manager service on the first application server computer to acquire access rights for a portion of HTTP session data corresponding to the request for the client computer;

wherein the first manager service on the first application server computer stores state information indicative of access rights acquired by each of the application server computers to portions of HTTP session data;

wherein the first manager service on the first application server computer communicates with the first backup manager service on the second application server computer in order to maintain a first mirror of the state information on the second application server computer.

~~accessing the HTTP session data to process the request; and~~

~~communicating with the manager service to release the access rights for the HTTP session data for the client computer.~~

34. (Canceled)

35. (New) The server computer of claim 1,
wherein the first manager service is further operable to communicate with a second backup manager service on a third server computer in order to maintain a second mirror of the state information on the third server computer.